

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 149921 TOSEC 070008

FOLLOWING REPEAT BRUSSELS 11655 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO
ALL EC CAPITALS 13 JUN 78

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 11655

USEEC

PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: OECD, PDIP, ECIN

SUBJECT: OECD MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE: EXPORT CREDIT
LANGUAGE

REF: STATE 147745

1. EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT ROY JENKINS AND VICE
PRESIDENT ORTOLI (WHO WILL BE REPRESENTING COMMISSION AT
MINISTERIAL) WERE BOTH OUT OF TOWN. HOWEVER, AMBASSADOR
TRANSMITTED TO THEM LETTER WITH PROPOSED LANGUAGE ON
EXPORT CREDIT ARRANGEMENT FOR OECD MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE,
URGING THEM TO SUPPORT ITS INCLUSION.
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2. WE THEN TOOK UP MATTER WITH PETER KLEIN, DIRECTOR
IN CHARGE OF EXPORT CREDIT MATTERS. KLEIN HAD NOT YET
DISCUSSED MATTER WITH MEMBER STATE REPS, BUT GAVE A SHARPLY
NEGATIVE REACTION TO TEXT. HE SAID THAT THE COMMUNITY
WOULD NOT WANT MINISTERS TO ENTER INTO AN ENGAGEMENT NOW
TO UNDERTAKE NEW NEGOTIATIONS ON THE EXPORT CREDIT ARRANGE-
MENT. HE WOULD NOT OF COURSE EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY OF

TRYING TO IMPROVE THE ARRANGEMENT IN THE FUTURE, BUT THOUGHT THAT THERE WAS NO HOPE WHATSOEVER OF COMPLETING ANY SUCH IMPROVEMENTS BY THE END OF THIS YEAR. THEREFORE, HE FELT THERE WAS NO POSSIBILITY OF THE EC AGREEING TO THE PROPOSED TEXT, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY OF INCLUDING SOME LANGUAGE ON EXPORT CREDIT ARRANGEMENT IN COMMUNIQUE.

3. IN SUBSEQUENT BRIEF MEETING WITH MISSION OFFICER, KLEIN INDICATED THAT HE HAD JUST COME FROM A DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED US LANGUAGE WITH MEMBER STATE REPRESENTATIVES AND THAT ALL EC PARTICIPANTS HAD AGREED ON THE FOLLOWING LINE:

A. IT IS BASICALLY INAPPROPRIATE FOR MINISTERS OF INDIVIDUAL EC MEMBER STATES TO SPEAK ON THE EXPORT CREDIT CONSENSUS AS PART OF AN OECD COMMUNIQUE. THE COMMISSION HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXPORT CREDITS.

B. IN ORDER TO BE COOPERATIVE, MINISTERS COULD IN THE COMMUNIQUE UNDERLINE THE UTILITY OF THE EXPORT CREDIT CONSENSUS AND EXPRESS SATISFACTION THAT ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES HAVE CHOSEN TO PARTICIPATE IN IT. THEY MIGHT ALSO SUGGEST THAT FULL USE BE MADE OF THE AUTUMN REVIEW PROCESS IN ASSESSING POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CONSENSUS.

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4. KLEIN ADDED THAT ALTHOUGH HE AND MEMBER STATE REPS DO NOT SEE A POSSIBILITY FOR A RENEGOTIATION OF THE CONSENSUS AT THIS TIME, THEY HAD AGREED THAT THE AUTUMN REVIEW WILL GIVE EVERYONE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE HIS POINTS ABOUT THE CONSENSUS. HINTON

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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